CITY OF VAUGHAN
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (1)
ADDENDUM AGENDA

(ADDENDUMS WILL REQUIRE A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA)

If you wish to speak to an item listed on the Agenda, please pre-register by completing a Request to Speak Form online, emailing clerks@vaughan.ca, or contacting Service Vaughan at 905-832-2281, by 12 noon on the last business day before the meeting.

Tuesday, May 7, 2024
1:00 p.m.
Council Chamber
2nd Floor, Vaughan City Hall
2141 Major Mackenzie Dr., Vaughan, ON
and Online via Electronic Participation

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement (prior to the commencement of the meeting)

Pages

6. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION INCLUDING MEMBERS RESOLUTION(S)

Addendum listing

21. PROTECTING VAUGHAN'S VULNERABLE SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE — *3*
Resolution of Mayor Del Duca with respect to the above.

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole (1)

DATE: Tuesday, May 07, 2024

TITLE: PROTECTING VAUGHAN'S VULNERABLE SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

FROM:
Mayor Steven Del Duca

Whereas, safeguarding the quality of life for all Vaughan residents by combating all forms of hate, intimidation, intolerance, discrimination and the incitement of violence requires an immediate call to action;

Whereas, acts of intimidation such as the vandalism at Chabad House of Maple on November 14th, 2023 and the bomb threat targeting the Jaffari Community Centre on November 16th, 2023 are examples of the unacceptable rise in hateful behaviour against specific communities and their places of worship in our community;

Whereas, in March 2024, two large-scale protests took place in Thornhill, in close proximity to synagogues, schools, childcare facilities and congregate care facilities, leading to Vaughan residents to have feelings of considerable distress and intimidation;

Whereas, Mayor Del Duca, Councillor Martow, MP Melissa Lantsman and MPP Laura Smith released a joint statement on March 6th, 2024 stating that the targeting of places of worship, schools and childcare facilities is unacceptable;

Whereas, all levels of government have a responsibility to work together to protect vulnerable social infrastructure, as exemplified in the "Safe Zones Around Religious Institutions Act, 2022" (Schedule 9 of Bill 86, the "Our London Family Act - Working Together to Combat Islamophobia and Hatred, 2022," which was developed by the National Council of Canadian Muslims and was debated in the Ontario Legislature in 2022) which proposed a $25,000 fine being imposed on any person who performed an

act of intimidation or disturbance, distributed hate propaganda, or uttered threats within 50 metres of the boundary of a place of worship;

Whereas, on December 17, 2021, Bill C-3 received Royal Assent. This federal legislation amended the Criminal Code of Canada to create a new intimidation offence that protects health care workers or persons seeking health care services against intimidating conduct including threats or other forms of violence that are intended to provoke fear or to interfere with the duties of a health care worker or to impede a person from receiving health care services, and carries with it a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment;

Whereas, in 2023, Calgary City Council passed the Safe and Inclusive Access Bylaw, which is designed to help ensure safe and inclusive access to municipal recreation facilities and libraries by providing 100 metre "access zones" around these facilities;

Whereas, no contemplated measures to protect vulnerable social infrastructure and the residents who use this infrastructure will prevent the right to peaceful protest or demonstration.

It is therefore recommended:

1. That Council direct staff to return at the earliest possible time, with a bylaw to be considered and voted upon by Council that prohibits demonstrations of a nature that intimidate, incite hatred, violence, intolerance or discrimination within 100 meters, or within reasonable distance, of a religious institution, school, childcare centre, hospital or congregate care facility is located; and

2. That Council directs City staff to ensure the bylaw provides that any person who violates the aforementioned condition be fined up to the maximum amount permissible, not to exceed $100,000; and

3. That nothing in the bylaw should prevent peaceful protests or demonstrations, including those that occur as part of a labour union strike; and

4. That Council directs staff to engage with York Regional Police regarding the potential for a joint enforcement framework concurrent with the development of the bylaw; and

5. That a Special Council meeting be called immediately following this Committee of the Whole meeting for the purpose of ratifying this item, and that any requirements of the Procedure By-law be waived.

Financial and Staff Resource Impact
There are no financial impacts associated with this Member's Resolution.

Attachments

1. Correspondence In Support from York Regional Police – April 19, 2024
2. Correspondence In Support from LiUNA – April 12, 2024

ATTACHMENT 1

Alvaro Almeida
Deputy Chief of Investigations

Paulo Da Silva
Deputy Chief of Operations

Jim MacSween
Chief of Police

Cecile Hammond
Deputy Chief of Administration

Kevin McCloskey
Deputy Chief of Support

April 19, 2024

Mayor Steven Del Duca and Members of Council
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, Ontario L6A 1T1

Your Worship and Members of Council:

Re: Member's Resolution for Vulnerable Infrastructure Protest By-law

I am writing on behalf of the York Regional Police to express our full support for the proposed Member's Resolution to draft a By-law aimed at protecting vulnerable social infrastructure and the residents who use it from demonstrations that are intended to intimidate, incite hatred, violence, intolerance or discrimination.

We recognize the serious concerns raised by residents regarding certain demonstrations occurring in close proximity to vulnerable locations, such as religious institutions, schools, childcare centres, hospitals and congregate care facilities. We are committed to working with the City of Vaughan to address these concerns and ensure the safety and well-being of all community members.

Furthermore, we are open to providing support and assistance to the city, whether through joint enforcement operations or community outreach initiatives.

The right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly is fundamental to our democratic society. The proposed Member's Bill recognizes the importance of these rights, and that nothing in the By-law should prevent peaceful protests or demonstrations.

Together, we will be able to promote safe and secure access to vulnerable social infrastructure throughout the City of Vaughan.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or assistance.

Yours Truly,

JMS/cd

Jim MacSween, M.O.M., B.A.A.
Chief of Police

LiUNA!
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Friday April 12, 2024

Mayor Steven Del Duca
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Maple, ON
L6A 1T1

Re: Resolution – Protecting Vaughan's Vulnerable Social Infrastructure

On behalf of LiUNA Local 183 and our Membership, I am writing to express our support for the resolution tabled by Mayor Del Duca on Protecting Vaughans's Vulnerable Social Infrastructure. The right to peaceful assembly is a cornerstone of democracy and a fundamental human right enshrined in our Charter of Rights and Freedoms. It is a vital means through which individuals can express their opinions, advocate for change, and hold those in power accountable.

Unfortunately, we have witnessed an alarming trend of protests rooted in violence and intimidation targeting places of worship, schools, hospitals, and congregate care facilities. By protecting these vital social institutions from threats of violence, hatred and intimidation, this resolution strikes the necessary balance between protecting the right to peaceful assembly while also protecting safe access to these vital but often vulnerable social infrastructure assets.

Sincerely

Jack Oliveira
Business Manager
LIUNA! Local 183 &
LIUNA! OPDC

Feel the Power